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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON

AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,

A SENATOR FROM RHODE ISLAND.

DELIVERED BY

HON. HENRY B. ANTHONY,
HON. NELSON W. ALDRICH,
HON. JONATHAN CHACE, AND
HON. HENRY J. SPOONER,

IN THE

SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

January 23, 1882.

WASHINGTON.
1882.

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ADDRESS

OF

HON. HENRY B. ANTHONY,

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. ANTHONY. Pursuant to notice given last week, I submit the resolutions I hold in my hand, and I ask that the Senate proceed to their present consideration.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Rhode Island will be read.

The Acting Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That from an earnest desire to show every mark of respect to the memory of Hon. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE, late a Senator of the United States from the State of Rhode Island, and to manifest the high estimate entertained of his eminent public services and his distinguished patriotism, the business of the Senate be now suspended, that his friends and associates may pay fitting tribute to his public and private virtues.

Resolved, That a widespread and public sorrow on the announcement of his death attested the profound sense of the loss which the whole country has sustained.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That as an additional mark of respect for the memory of the Senator, the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. ANTHONY:

> "No bugle must sound,
> Ye bright waving banners, stoop low!
> Let your lances with cyprus be bound,
> Let the drums be all silent in woe."

Mr. President, I have risen to perform the very saddest office that has fallen to me, in all my public service.

The sudden death of General BURNSIDE, in the full vigor and

strength of his manhood, sent, through the State of Rhode Island, a shock that was echoed back, in messages of sympathy and condolence, from every part of the country and from foreign lands. The nation, which was watching, in alternate hope and fear, the ebbing life of its elected chief, turned, for a moment, from the bedside of the dying Garfield, to lament the dead BURNSIDE. In this body, the death of no one among us could have moved the Senate to a profounder sense of sorrow. His bier has been moistened by the tears of a State; his tomb is garlanded by the admiration of a nation.

It is not my purpose to enter upon a sketch of the life of General BURNSIDE; scarcely even of his character. The most important part of that life was passed in the service of his country, and his deeds are a part of his country's history; and so long as New Berne and Roanoke Island, and South Mountain, and Antietam and Knoxville are remembered, his services and his fame will not be forgotten.

General BURNSIDE was born at Liberty, Union County, Indiana, May 23, 1824. His family was of Scotch descent. His great-grandfather, Robert Burnside, with two brothers, had espoused the cause of Charles Edward, and after the triumph of the British arms, and the overthrow of the Pretender, at Culloden, sought an asylum in South Carolina. The General's grandfather, James Burnside, married a daughter of James Edghill, an Englishman, by birth. His son, the father of the General, bore his mother's paternal name, Edghill Burnside. He was born in South Carolina, but removed to the Territory of Indiana. He appears to have sympathized with the conscientous repugnance to slavery, which, even at that early day, had been aroused in the Carolinas, for he freed his slaves, and accompanied the "Quaker Emigration" to the West, which was dedicated to freedom, by the ordinance of 1787. In his new home, he maintained a character of high respectability and influence; was for a long time, clerk of the county court, an associate justice of the same, and a senator in the Legislature of the State. Ambrose was his youngest son. He gave him a good English education, in the schools of the neighborhood; and in 1843, he entered, as a cadet, at West Point. At the academy, he was not a hard student. With exuberant animal spirits, of vigorous bodily strength, he became expert in military and athletic exercises, while his aptitude in mathematics, then, as now, ranking high in the curric-

ulum of studies, compensated for his deficiency of literary application and gave him an excellent average standing; and he graduated eighteen, in a class of thirty-eight.

Among his classmates and fellow-students were many who subsequently rose to distinction, on one side or the other, in the late unhappy war. Of his own class were Generals Wilcox, Fry, Gibson, Long, Griffin, Viele and Hunt on the Union side, and A. P. Hill and Heth on the other. This class furnished twenty-eight officers who adhered to the flag, and four who took up arms against it. Six had previously died or resigned. Among his fellow-students were Generals McClellan, Hancock, Pleasanton, Fitz-John Porter, Gilmore, Parke, Reno, Foster, William F. Smith, C. P. Stone, Hatch, Sackett, Granger, Stoneman, Russell, Pitcher, Gibbs, Gordon, Michler, Duane, Tidball, Benet, Bond, McKeever and Buford, who supported the Union, and Jackson, (Stonewall,) Maxey, (Senator,) Buckner, Rhett, E. K. Smith, Bee, W. D. Smith, D. R. Jones, Wilcox, Pickett, Ben Robinson, T. A. Washington, Thomas K. Jackson, G. H. Steuart and Withers, who opposed it. Immediately upon his graduation, BURNSIDE joined the Army, and was sent to Mexico, with which the United States were at war. Active negotiations for peace had commenced, before he reached the seat of war, in which he took no part, except to escort a baggage train from Vera Cruz to the capital city, through a hostile country, filled with guerrillas, a service which he performed with such skill and discretion, as gave promise of future distinction, and received the commendation of his superiors. After that, as first lieutenant in Bragg's battery, organized as cavalry, he was employed in the difficult and perilous duty of escorting the mails across the plains infested by hostile savages.

In 1853, having invented a breech-loading rifle, which, although since superseded by later inventions, was a great improvement over any then in use, he resigned his commission, and engaged in the manufacture of this new weapon, at Bristol. The enterprise proved unfortunate. He failed to secure a contract with the Government, not from the lack of merit in the invention, but from his indignant refusal to employ the intervention of a lobbyist, or middle man, who enjoyed the favor of the War Department. Leaving Bristol, for which he always retained the strongest attachment, and where he afterwards

returned, and set up his household gods, he entered the service of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, of which his friend and fellow-student, General McClellan, was vice-president, and where he soon rose to the important position of treasurer.

At this time, General BURNSIDE was a Democrat in his politics. He had run as the Democratic candidate for Congress, in his district, in Rhode Island. During the agitation that preceded the outbreak of the rebellion he strongly urged the restoration of harmony and the preservation of the Union, by peaceful means, to avoid the conflict of arms.

To this end he was ready to make important concessions, to allay the Southern discontent. But when the first gun upon Fort Sumter fired alike the Southern and the Northern heart, he promptly, and without a moment's hesitation, offered to his country the sword that she had taught him to use. He was selected for the command of the First Rhode Island regiment. In reply to a dispatch from Governor Sprague, inquiring how soon he could leave for his command, he answered "at once;" and, the next morning, he was in Providence, busily engaged in organizing and preparing it. In an incredibly short time, the regiment was raised and equipped; and in two days, after the first man was enlisted, a battery of six rifled guns, with five hundred men, was on its way to Washington; and, in two days more, the rest of the regiment followed. Notwithstanding this promptness, such was the vigor of the Colonel, seconded by his subordinate officers, and such his valuable military experience, that the regiment left fully armed, equipped and provisioned; and gained the highest praise by its appearance of discipline, efficiency and soldierly bearing. None of the new and hastily organized regiments came into the service better prepared for their duties. Its evening parade was a favorite resort of Mr. Lincoln, who, accompanied by high dignitaries, civil and military, often came to witness and to admire its evolutions.

In the battle of Bull Run, which followed, Colonel BURNSIDE commanded a brigade, and as was justly said, in a memoir read before the Loyal Legion by Colonel William Goddard, who served under him, "no share in the disasters of that conflict can be assigned to him or to his troops." In the autumn of 1861, General BURNSIDE,

raised to the rank of brigadier-general, took command of the "Burnside Expedition" to the coast of North Carolina. The conception, the plan and the execution of that important enterprise attest the uncommon military ability of its originator and leader. The secret of the expedition was well kept, kept even from the penetrating investigation of the newspapers. It sailed in January 1862, the objective point being known only to the commander and the few confidential officers whom it was necessary to intrust with the information. A violent storm struck the fleet, off Hatteras, and dispersed the vessels, so that more than a week elapsed before they reached the rendezvous. There, they encountered a succession of gales, which threatened them with destruction. The ships, crowded into a narrow space, with insufficient holding ground, beaten about, by the winds and waves, entangling their hawsers, running foul of each other, and filled, to overflowing, with discouraged and sea-sick men, the expedition seemed to be predestined to failure, by force of the elements, without the opportunity to fire a gun. In the midst of all this disastrous confusion, the calm features and striking figure of BURNSIDE appeared conspicuous, meeting every emergency, providing against every calamity, confident, imparting to his men his own indomitable cheerfulness, and inspiring them with his own unfailing hopefulness. The gallant and able defenders of the position flattered themselves with the easy repulse of any assault that could be made against it, by land or by water, even unaided by the elements, which seemed to have conspired in their favor. They were strongly fortified, naturally, and by artificial works, skillfully constructed, and of great strength.

A not over friendly pen thus describes the situation:

When a generation shall arrive that has time to read the romance of the four years we call the rebellion, none of its episodes will stand out more picturesquely than BURNSIDE'S audacious assault upon the rebel seaboard at its most defensible point. New Berne was the knot of a ganglia of railway systems. An army of one hundred thousand men could have been concentrated on its circumvallating land and water lines long before BURNSIDE felt justified in attacking. The rebels were content with confronting the expedition with equal or but slightly superior numbers, and though they had much in their favor, the admirable courage and intrepid combinations of the Union commanders wrested lines and defenses from well-organized defenders that in any other war or at any other time would have given the victors an imperishable fame. Landing his little army below New Berne, on the Neuse River, BURNSIDE deployed his lines with a simple faith in the Army regula-

tions that would have given joy to such a martinet as Von Moltke or Fred The rebels were admirably protected and had not anticipated serious peril t turb the serenity of their confidence. Great fields of yellow furze, with a growth of pines, separated their works from the river. These works, begi with an enormous rail way embankment that reached the dimension of bastio certain points, were calculated to hold an army in check until field-guns and lar approaches should demolish them. BURNSIDE, though timid in peace and dent in war, was never cautious in battle. He believed that armies nearly e in numbers could find no better business than fighting a situation out on the opportunity. Heckmann, the dashing commander of the Ninth New Jersey In try, took the lead, and the regiment tore across the field on a run. They found men behind the works as full of ardor as themselves. The *élan* of the Jerseym however, had caught the Connecticut troops and New Yorkers, and the line, tho mowed down and almost annihilated, reached the railway, surmounted, cro the ditch on the side, and in a few minutes the astonished and confident rel were prisoners. This is not the place, however, to relate this admirably compl military diversion.

This was the earliest important Union success in the East. T grumblers, a class always numerous, and noisy in proportion their ignorance of the purposes, or even of the destination of the e pedition, had been loud in their predictions of its failure, in whi they were strengthened by vague reports of disaster and shipwrec When the news of victory was flashed across the wires, one exulta shout rose throughout the North, and the name of BURNSIDE was i every mouth.

General BURNSIDE then joined the army of the Potomac, where h organized the Ninth Corps, which rendered so important services and won for itself and its commander so high renown. On the 14t of September, 1862, General BURNSIDE achieved the victory of Soutl Mountain. At the battle of Antietam, he commanded the left wing of the army. Returning to the army of the Potomac, he resumed command of his favorite Ninth Corps. Here he was offered the command of the army. He declined it, with unaffected diffidence, as he had twice before; but it was pressed upon him by positive orders, and he could not, longer, without insubordination, refuse it. The battle of Fredericksburgh followed. I do not propose to enter upon any discussion of that conflict, so disastrous to the Union arms. I wish to arouse no animosities, by bringing up disputed points; but I should not render justice to the occasion, did I not say that, in the judgment of men infinitely better instructed than I, in military affairs, had the general been seconded by the loyal and cordial co-operation of all his chief subordinates, and had he received promised

appliances, victory would have perched on the Union banners. Such, I have no doubt, was his own opinion although I never heard him declare it.

As magnanimous in disaster as he was modest in success, he assumed the whole responsibility of the defeat, and made no complaint. He simply demanded the removal of certain officers, as the condition on which alone, he could efficiently and satisfactorily remain at the head of the Army. This condition not complied with, he resigned, and turned over the command to General Hooker. When urged to make public his grievances, he replied that it would embarrass General Hooker, whose success he sincerely desired, and, with his hopeful disposition, believed in. Time and history, he said, would vindicate him, and if they failed to do so, it was better that he should remain under a cloud of undeserved reproach, than that a word should be added to the dissensions, already too prevalent in the Army. An appeal to the popular feeling, in a matter of this kind, was abhorrent to his ideas of military discipline. In the order, transferring his command, he said, after praising the courage, patience and endurance of the men, "Continue to exercise these virtues, be true in your devotion to your country, and to the principles you have sworn to maintain, give to the brave and skillful general, who has so long been identified with your organization, and who is now to command you, your full and cordial support and co-operation, and you will deserve success."

The President refused to accept General BURNSIDE'S resignation of his commission, and appointed him to the command of the Department of the Ohio, where he rendered eminent and conspicuous service, clearing the country of guerrillas, and affording protection to the loyal population. Attacked, by Longstreet, with vastly superior forces, he retired, after repulsing the enemy, which outnumbered him, nearly three to one, at Campbell's Station, to Knoxville, which he occupied, and fortified, and where he successfully resisted the siege which that able general laid to it. A terrific assault was made upon his fortifications, and was repulsed, with equal impetuosity; and the enemy was driven back, with the loss of fourteen hundred men. Encouraged by dispatches from General Grant, urging the importance of maintaining the position, which he occupied, General BURNSIDE

held out, by the fertility of his resources, by his patience, persistence, and unfailing hopefulness, with all which qualities he had the happy faculty of inspiring his men, till Longstreet, warned by the approaching relief of Sherman, was obliged to raise the siege.

Again assigned to the command of his own Ninth Corps, General BURNSIDE participated, actively, in the closing operations of the war, under General Grant. In front of Petersburgh, he undertook the mine about which so much has been said and written. I have not time to go into an account of this work; but I do not hesitate to say that, had he been permitted to carry out that enterprise, on his own plans, and with troops of his own selection, it would have been a success. The whole matter was investigated by the Congressional Committee on the Conduct of the War, which said in its report:

> The cause of the disastrous result of the assault of the 30th of July last is mainly attributable to the fact, that the plans and suggestions of the General [BURNSIDE] who devoted his attention, for so long a time, to the subject, who had carried out to so successful completion the project of mining the enemy's works, and who had so carefully selected and drilled his troops, for the purpose of securing whatever advantages might be attainable from the explosion of the mine, should have been so entirely disregarded by a general who had evinced no faith in the successful prosecution of that work, had aided it by no countenance or open approval, and had assumed the entire direction and control, only when it was completed, and the time had come for reaping any advantage that might be derived from it.

And General Grant, in his testimony before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, frankly said "General BURNSIDE wanted to put his colored division in front, *and I believe if he had done so, it would have been a success.*" Surely, if human testimony avails anything, this is a sufficient vindication of General BURNSIDE.

At the close of the rebellion, General BURNSIDE resigned his commission, and retired to private life. In 1866 he was elected Governor of Rhode Island; he was twice re-elected; when he declined further service. In 1875, he entered this body, where his honorable and useful course is well known to us all. On the expiration of his term of office he was re-elected.

In 1870, during the Franco-German war General BURNSIDE was in Europe. At Versailles, the headquarters of the invading army, he made the acquaintance of the German Emperor, the Crown Prince, Bismarck, and Von Moltke, on all of whom he made a favorable impression, and especially on Bismarck. Dr. Russell wrote to the London Times, "Bismarck likes him, [BURNSIDE.] Indeed there are few

persons of any nation who will not be touched by the cordial nature and uprightness of the man, by his solid good sense and kindliness of nature, and by his clearness of perception unmarred by affectation selfishness or any affectation of statesmanship, which is perhaps the highest diplomacy. Count Bismarck has a penchant for Americans, of a certain high stamp. He says 'I like self-made men. It is the best sort of manufacture in our race.'" In the interest of peace General BURNSIDE went, under a flag of truce, twice, to Paris, where he had interviews with Jules Favre, General Trochu and other members of the government. The visit was attended with considerable personal danger, as there was no communication permitted between the hostile lines, and the General and his party were fired on, at their approach, their flag of truce being misunderstood.

He went in no official capacity, but was the bearer of certain suggestions from Count Bismarck to Monseiur Jules Favre, in relation to an armistice, for the purpose of enabling the French people to elect a Constituent Assembly, to replace the fallen Empire, and to enter into negotiations for peace. Count Bismarck authorized General BURNSIDE to say that he would grant an absolute armistice of forty-eight hours for holding an election, and give every facility for a fair election as well as for the subsequent departure of the members elected for the city of Paris for the place where the Constituent Assembly might meet. The government of Paris was not, however, disposed to permit the election of a Constituent Assembly, which might deprive it of power, and General BURNSIDE'S mission simply opened the door for future negotiations. The General, after his second visit to Paris, obtained from Count Bismarck permission for about one hundred Americans to leave Paris, many of them without funds and in a deplorable condition.

The General was impressed with the appearance of Paris, invested by an immense army; isolated from the rest of the world, except when a mail was received under a flag of truce, or sent away by a balloon; with five hundred thousand troops in the city, and ten thousand sailors manning the heavy guns on the outer forts; with its theaters closed, its gas-lights extinguished, and its markets destitute of meat, poultry, fish and game. He was not at the time communicative respecting his visit, but he expressed his opinion that Paris

could not be successfully defended, and that it could not be take by assault.

In 1852, General BURNSIDE married Mary Richmond Bishop, a most excellent and accomplished woman, graced with every virtue that adorns her sex. After a most happy union, she died in 1876. During the five years that he survived her he did not cease to lament her.

General BURNSIDE united as many excellencies with as few failings as often meet in one character. Brave, manly, generous, he joined to the rugged masculine virtues and "all that may become a man" a softness and gentleness of disposition that became a woman. Quick in his conceptions, rapid in his processes, he was sometimes hasty in his judgments; but he always held them open to evidence, and subject to argument, and with a singular absence of the pride of opinion, he changed them, frankly, on conviction. He believed in general laws, to the test of whose principles he brought particular cases. Incapable of guile, liberal in his estimate of men, he was, occasionally, too little suspicious of the guilefulness of others. Yet he was no mean judge of character, and no man long deceived him; nor ever twice. He had an instinctive horror of injustice, and a genuine contempt for meanness; yet his horror of the one and his contempt for the other were, to a certain extent, modified by his charitableness; and after strongly denouncing a wrong, he would interpose some palliation for the wrong-doer, would find some generous mitigation of the offense which he could not defend and could not overlook. No man was firmer in his friendships or more faithful in his convictions. Nothing could tempt him to an act which his conscience condemned. No sophistry, no personal appeal could move him from his fixed idea of right.

General BURNSIDE was a man of profound religious beliefs. He held firmly to the truths of religion, natural and revealed, and had full confidence in a superintending Providence, which, whether working by general laws, or by special interposition, he cared not to inquire, ruled in the affairs of men. He had a faith, almost superstitious in its force, that men were rewarded for their good, and were punished for their evil deeds, even in this world; that, in the long run a man did not suffer from an honest conduct, or profit from a dishonest one. Often when, under a sense of injustice toward

himself, or lamenting it in others, he has said to me "Well there is a good Father above, who watches over us, and who will bring all this out right, in the end;" and while holding, with the tenacity of conviction, to his own deliberate judgments, he was most generous in his estimate of others, never seeking or, save in the plainest cases, accepting an unworthy motive when a worthy one could be found applicable.

He had also an undoubting faith in elective institutions, and that the people, however they might be misled, in the beginning, would ultimately decide, correctly and patriotically, every question on which they were called upon to act. That sanguine temperament, which enters so largely into the elements of success, made him always confident of the final triumph of the political principles in which he firmly believed. He had what seemed to me an exaggerated estimate of the rights and just powers and duties of our Government toward the other American States; and looked forward to the supremacy of our flag over almost the entire continent, a consummation however, which, as he fully believed it would come in God's good time, he would not hasten by act of violent aggression, although, as the Senate knows, he was strongly in favor of asserting our rights, by declaratory legislation.

Need I speak, in this presence, of General BURNSIDE's hospitality, so cordial! so elegant! yet so simple and so unostentatious! Who that has enjoyed it, who that has seen his genial countenance and his commanding form, at the head of his table, can forget them?

General BURNSIDE was strongly attached to rural pleasures and addicted to agricultural pursuits. His little estate, of fifty-seven acres, near Bristol, and named "Edghill Farm," after his father and his paternal grandmother, was a model farm, and, by the application of science to practical experience, had been brought to a high state of cultivation; and prouder than of all his successes in the field, and in the forum, he seemingly was of his meadow that cut three tons to the acre, and of his cornfield that yielded sixteen hundred bushels to twelve acres. His herd of Alderneys, of the purest blood, and of the finest character, was the admiration of the neighborhood. He was very fond of his horses and his cattle which—such is the effect of steady kindness even upon the brute creation—knew his voice, and

always welcomed his approaching steps. His favorite horse—the gift of some unknown friend—that had borne him on many a hard-fought field, lived to the age of nigh thirty years, and, long past service to his owner, became by reason of age and infirmity, a burden to himself, till life was nothing but a prolonged suffering. Yet the general was reluctant, even at the dictate of humanity, to have him killed. At last, he yielded, and ordered the animal to be shot, but not till he should have departed for Washington. The time of that departure never came. The day when the lifeless body of the Senator was borne from the farm that he loved so well, the faithful beast was shot.

General BURNSIDE delivered several speeches and addresses at agricultural meetings. These were replete with sound doctrine, practical suggestions, and sturdy common sense. Among his papers was an address that he had prepared, to be delivered before the Aquidnic Agricultural Society of Rhode Island, whose fair a slight indisposition, just before the fatal attack, had prevented him from attending. In the cultivation and improvement of his farm, he took the greatest delight. He loved to watch the ripening fruit, the young trees putting forth their tender leaves, and extending their growing branches, the yellow field, tremulous with the waving harvest. Always, on the adjournment of the Senate, he turned, with eager steps, to his chosen acres. They are situated on a ridge of land gently sloping to Mount Hope Bay, an indentation of the broader Narragansett, and navigable to the shore of the farm, commanding a view, seldom equaled, by land and water, including a portion of the island that gives its name to the State, the beautiful rural town of Bristol, the white roofs of Fall River, whose tall chimneys continually darken the sky with the smoke of toil, and Mount Hope, the ancient seat of King Philip, and the place where that renowned warrior was slain. The house is of a quaint and peculiar construction, built after the General's own fancy, and from his own designs, and, in its architecture and appointments, suggesting the idea of a maritime structure. Here, he dispensed an elegant and profuse, yet simple and inexpensive hospitality. The highest personages in the land and the humblest soldier that ever fought by his side met the same cordial reception, the same frank and unaffected welcome. The great dining-room, around

whose table many who listen to me have sat, is inclosed with broad piazzas, having curious and original arrangements, the fruit of the general's mechanical tastes, for protection from the fervid heats of summer and the chilling blasts of winter, and is distinguished by an enormous fire-place, over which rise the huge antlers of a great deer or caribou. Ah! the genial hospitality of that famous room! In my mind's-eye, the picture is before me! The farm is a lovely spot, never lovlier than on the sad day when I saw it last, bathed in the soft light of early November, bending beneath the golden weight of autumn, resplendent with the hues of the dying year.

General BURNSIDE's death was very sudden. The afternoon before, he was at my house, in Providence. He had been a little ill, for a few days previous, but with nothing that caused apprehension. He left me gaily, promising to return the next morning. He insisted upon walking to the railroad station, half a mile distant, saying that the exercise would do him good. On the following morning I received a telephonic message that he was very ill, and requesting me to come to him. Before a carriage could be brought to the door, a second message came, saying that he was dead. He had been alarmingly ill, scarcely an hour. Of all those who loved him, only his faithful and attached servants stood by his dying bed. Shall we lament the manner of such a death? Is it not better than the slow decay, the wasted form, the failing mind of age? To him whom a life of usefulness and of goodness has prepared for his coming, death, when he comes unannounced, comes robbed of half his terrors. Let us find consolation for that portion of him which has died in the contemplation of that portion which could not die, in the memory of his services to his country, his great achievements, his unselfish generosity, his patriotism, his public and his private virtues.

General BURNSIDE was of fine address, of a commanding stature, a strikingly handsome man. The frankness of his expression and the sweetness of his smile, at once, won upon the observer, and prepared him for that favorable judgment which a fuller acquaintance never failed to confirm. His age was fifty-seven. I think that no man survives him whose form and features are known to a greater number of persons. They were calculated to attract attention, and once seen were not likely to be forgotten. His acquaintance in the Army, where

he had held large commands, his frequent journeyings at home, and his foreign travel; his entrance into Paris, at a time, and under circumstances that rendered him the observed of all observers, made him familiar to hundreds of thousands who did not have his personal acquaintance.

Upon my personal relations with General BURNSIDE I do not dwell; I scarce venture to speak of them. As you know, Senators, they were of the most intimate and tender character. During our whole service together, they were never disturbed by differences or clouded by doubt or distrust. Not always agreeing upon public measures, we differed, on those rare occasions when we did differ, with mutual respect and confidence. He was the most lovable man that I ever knew; and I loved him, I love him still, with a love which will find no successor to him, in my affection. Not a day has passed, since I last looked upon him, scarcely a waking hour, when he has not been in my mind. And even if I could have forgotten him, I should have been reminded of him by the expressions of sympathy which have continually met me.

"Ah! Jonathan! my brother! lorne
And friendless I must looke to be!
That harte whose woe thou oft has borne
Is sore and strickene nowe for thee!
Younge bridegroome's love on brydal morne—
Oh it was lyghte to thyne for me.
Thy tymeless lotte I now must playne,
Even on thyne own highe places slayne."

Friend, companion, brother! hail and farewell! The memory of thy virtues and of thy services and that thou did'st deem me worthy of thy friendship and thy confidence are my chief consolation, in the irreparable loss that I have suffered.

ADDRESS

OF

HON. NELSON W. ALDRICH,

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. ALDRICH. Mr. President, other Senators, better qualified by long and familiar association during years of common service here, or of common peril in the field, have faithfully told the story of General BURNSIDE'S life and public services. I cannot hope to add anything to their graceful words of eulogy and eloquent tributes of affection, and I should not venture to detain the Senate beyond a simple declaration of concurrence in their kindly expressions if the obligations of my position did not require that I should confirm the testimony so feelingly and beautifully given by my colleague of the estimation in which Senator BURNSIDE was held by the people of my native State. No man stood higher in the regard of the people of Rhode Island, and the loss of none in all her history has been so universally mourned. His sudden death touched our hearts with sadness and sorrow at a time when all were watching with anxious solicitude at the bedside of our dying Chief Magistrate.

The dark shadows of impending calamity which then filled every household in the land with gloom deepened the grief which overwhelmed our people when the announcement was made that their neighbor had been stricken down. He had been the trusted and familiar friend of all classes, and all felt that they had suffered in his death an irreparable loss. There was something phenomenal in the attachment of our entire community to General BURNSIDE. It was the affection of a people, proud of their history and traditions, clinging with peculiar tenacity to their conservative institutions, slow to change or to give their confidence, for a man who came to

them in mature years a stranger from a distant State. To this son of Indiana, who left behind him the unequaled opportunities for development and the broad fields of usefulness and power of the great West and boldly stemmed the tide of emigration to enter in New England lists already crowded with competitors, they gave abundant evidences of their confidence and freely accorded their highest political honors. No man can say that these distinctions were not fairly won by honorable service.

It is not necessary that I should recall the familiar facts of his eventful career. As a brave, faithful and efficient soldier, he deserved the gratitude of his countrymen for his important services. It may not be possible for his contemporaries to assign to him the place he will occupy in history as a military commander, but we can say with confidence that no man entered our great conflict with a nobler purpose, or was actuated at all times by a more devoted patriotism, or had a keener appreciation of the importance of the duties he was called upon to discharge. The brightness of his military record was never tarnished by exhibitions of petty jealousy, or by unseemly strife for personal preferment. He had courage, a resolute, steadfast determination which was superior to all obstacles, and an unwavering faith in the justice of his cause. His familiarity with the *personnel* of his command and his painstaking care over everything which would contribute to their convenience and comfort, kept them at all times in sympathy with their commander and his purposes. He never complained of any injustice or neglect, but was always ready to serve whenever and wherever he was ordered. It has been well said by one who knew him well, that he "was never discouraged by disaster or soured by a sense of injury." He never sought to evade the full measure of accountability for his acts and opinions, and his exceptional magnanimity often led him to assume the responsibility for failures and faults properly chargeable to others.

We find his characteristic honesty of purpose and devotion to duty manifested in his life at the Capital. He did not look upon his position here as an honor to be lightly worn, but as a great public trust, with grave responsibilities. He was ambitious to be a useful servant of the people who had honored him with a seat in the Senate and was always ready to respond to demands made upon him by his constitu-

ents, no matter how exacting they might be. His conclusions as to the line of public duty to be followed were reached not as the result of profound study, but by accepting the promptings of his own generous and manly nature, and these seemed to lead him instinctively to correct decisions.

We may not claim for him great genius or brilliant achievements as a soldier or statesman. He had neither the arrogant pretensions, the impracticable theories, nor the infirmities of temper which are sometimes accepted as the evidences of genius, but he had an intelligent comprehension of the important duties of American citizenship and a sincere desire and honest intention to advance the interests and improve the condition of his fellow-countrymen. No man ever dared to attempt to influence or control his action by appeals to purely selfish motives. He was always sanguine of the success of any cause which he advocated, as he believed in the ultimate supremacy of moral forces and the final triumph of right.

In emergencies, and whenever uncertain of methods or results, he confidently asked for Divine guidance, with the firmest belief in the efficacy of earnest prayer. His unaffected simplicity of manner, his kindness of heart, and his spirit of broad, catholic charity for the unfortunate and the suffering endeared him to all.

I should do an injustice to the general's memory if I should fail to allude to his attractive social qualities. These were best understood and appreciated by the wide circle of friends who were permitted to enjoy the delightful companionship of his home, with its warmth of welcome and genial intercourse and with its bountiful and gracious hospitality; but a much wider circle will remember the cordial grasp of the hand, and the kind words with which he invariably greeted those with whom he was brought in contact.

The hour dedicated to the memory and worth of our dear friend, who was so recently full of vitality and hope, and now has left the scenes of his earthly pleasures and friendships forever, is drawing to a close, and as we speak the final words we realize how powerless is human agency to mitigate our sorrow.

We may hereafter find much consolation in contemplating the record made to-day of his useful and honorable life. That his good name and example will be cherished by those who knew him best is

amply attested by many instances of their devotion to his memory. On the day preceding his funeral half of our population crowded through the portals of the City Hall in Providence, with bowed heads and tearful eyes, to look for the last time on his familiar features. His own loved and trusted veterans, the bravest and best of Rhode Island's sons, who tenderly guarded his mortal remains from the hour of his death until the earth closed over them, have taken steps to have his manly presence reproduced in enduring bronze to adorn the busy streets of our principal city. He was lovingly borne, with imposing honors, to his last resting-place by the State of his adoption, who now proudly claims his fame and his ashes as her own.

I move the adoption of the pending resolutions.

The PRESIDENT *pro tempore*. The question is on the adoption of the resolutions presented by the senior Senator from Rhode Island, [Mr. ANTHONY.]

The resolutions were agreed to unanimously; and (at two o'clock and twenty-one minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned.

ADDRESS

OF

HON. JONATHAN CHACE,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House of Representatives having received a message from the Senate communicating resolutions of the Senate on the death of Hon. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE, late a Senator from the State of Rhode Island—

Mr. CHACE said:

Mr. SPEAKER: I submit the resolutions which I send to the desk:

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved. That the House of Representatives has received with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE, late a United States Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

Resolved, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for fitting tributes to the memory of the deceased and to his eminent public and private virtues; and that as a further mark of respect the House, at the conclusion of such remarks, shall adjourn.

Mr. CHACE. Mr. Speaker, recognizing the eminent fitness of Congress placing upon record some memorial of those whose names have been stricken from the roll of either House by the hand of death; in deference to the common sentiment of the people of the State of Rhode Island; and impelled also by my own feelings of personal loss, I submit these resolutions; few men have been more fortunate than was AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE, few more honored; few have bound to themselves their friends with stronger ties than he; to few have come greater opportunities; upon few have rested greater responsibilities in life, and rarely has any public man discharged the trusts laid upon him more happily or more successfully; it was my privilege to know Senator BURNSIDE for many years, never without respect and esteem, of latter time it grew into a sincere feeling of friendship and regard. Widely separated as we were in sentiment and belief in regard to some points, there was always in him a gentle for-

bearance of feeling, a kindly consideration towards those who differed with him, that could not fail to challenge the warmest response. It is a pleasure, therefore, to emulate the broad charity, of which he set us so eminent an example, and in my feeble way pay a few brief words of honest tribute to the many noble qualities of his head and heart. He was a soldier and I opposed to all war; yet we were friends, for well we knew that

"Dimly in the present view
We see the truth."

Much of General BURNSIDE'S fame rests upon his military achievements, upon his command of the Ninth Army Corps and of the Army of the Potomac, during the rebellion. It will not be expected that I shall speak of his military career. That I shall pass over, holding, as he knew I did, that war is unjustifiable; that under the teachings of the New Testament it is not right to take human life under any circumstances; that

"Peace unweaponed conquers every wrong."

Had BURNSIDE died under ordinary circumstances the feelings of the people would have found much greater expression. His death came when the nation was holding sad vigil at the bedside of its stricken President; while hope was struggling with fear; while all hearts were deeply touched with the noble courage and heroic patience with which our Chief Magistrate battled for life. The nation was in anguish. In the midst of this season, so full of sorrow and grief, while the hands of fifty millions would fain have been put forth to wrestle with the angel of death and avert the impending sorrow, Rhode Island was called upon to part with her favorite son.

Death found him alone, with no loving hands save those of trusted and faithful servants to soothe his last moments. Although the ties of kinship brought no mourner, his was not a tearless funeral. The State in the person of its governor was his chief mourner, and thousands, with unfeigned sorrow, followed his bier to the grave.

In person he was large of stature, commanding in form, with a face, blending manly beauty and rugged strength, surmounted by a noble brow. With a most contagious smile, nature lent a graceful charm to every lineament. "His eye, turned even on empty space, beamed keen with honor." Physically his was a rare combination of that which is noble and lovable. With the voice of a stentor,

that could compass the largest audience, yet finely modulated to the gentlest emotion; open, frank, and genial in manner; industrious, patient, and forceful; with a rare self-control; bold as a lion, yet gentle as a woman, and kindly thoughtful of others, what wonder that men loved him. Rising from an humble position and trained for a military life, he attained eminence as a civilian. Thrice elected governor of the State and twice to the United States Senate, honoring himself and his constituents in each position, his life is another illustration of the blessings of our form of government and the great opportunities of American citizenship.

He was a wise and successful legislator. Making no pretensions to the arts of oratory, he had a straightforward manner of expressing himself, unadorned with rhetorical ornament, which reached the judgment of his hearers. His distinguishing characteristics were a faithfulness to trusts and an exalted sense of honor. This was nobly shown by his assuming the responsibility of the failure at Fredericksburgh. The defeat of the Union Army had depressed the spirits of the loyal men in the North, encouraging and emboldening those who sought the overthrow of the Government to redouble their outcries against the Administration that the President was improperly interfering with the command of the Army. The dark shadows around Lincoln's eyes, those furrowed lines on his sad and careworn face, increased in depth. Discontent was heard on every side. It was a time when a little soul would hide itself to escape blame. Not so BURNSIDE. "For the failure I am responsible," wrote he. That was moral heroism. Men who would face physical danger without blanching would hesitate here. Men will brave danger, will patiently endure suffering for the plaudits of the public, but few rise to the noble self-renunciation which he displayed by taking to himself discredit for his country's good. Holding strong convictions on questions of public policy, believing in party organization for the promotion of the public weal, he yet sunk the partisan in the patriot. As a legislator, urging with earnestness such measures as commended themselves to his judgment, the differences of view which are inevitable among men did not with him abate the warmth of personal friendship.

"He cherished large faith in humankind." He rose above the strife

of political campaigns, the contests of party cabal, and with cheerful greeting for opponents and supporters, pressed on with those measures which he believed would promote the material interests of the country, strengthen that which is pure, educate and enlighten the people and lead them up to higher aspirations for the promotion of peace, for the extinguishment of sectionalism, the strengthening of friendship among states and peoples, for a pure administration of justice and the preservation forever of the liberties of the people. Such was BURNSIDE. Great because he was faithful and true according to his light.

> His strength was as the strength of ten,
> Because his heart was pure.

A warrior who gloried less in feats of arms than in the substantial triumphs of the arts of peace. A legislator imbued with a high appreciation of the value of the institutions handed down to us by our fathers; inspired with a lofty sense of the responsibility we are under to preserve and transmit them unimpaired to posterity. A faithful friend, a loving husband, the charm of the social circle, cut down at the commencement of a Senatorial term and in the full tide of a splendid manhood.

Life is not measured by years, but by acts. It is not the rolling seasons, but entries by the recording angel of great and noble deeds; not the daily returning sun, but the repetition of those graceful ministrations which bring light to many hearts, that tale the life of man. Measured by this standard, the life of our friend was a full one. The body has perished as "a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when shaken of a mighty wind;" but

> "All that is real now remaineth,
> And fadeth never."

ADDRESS

OF

HON. HENRY J. SPOONER,

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. SPOONER. Mr. Speaker, the sudden death of Senator BURNSIDE, which has been so properly recognized as a national affliction, overwhelmed the people of Rhode Island in a great common sorrow.

BURNSIDE was of the foremost of our most eminent men, and held the largest share in the affections of our people. His commanding form was the most familiar figure in our State; his presence in any public gathering always evoked the heartiest greeting; his name was a "household word," mentioned with respect in every Rhode Island home. Thousands of my fellow-citizens had followed him through the varying fortunes of his campaigns, from Bull Run to Petersburgh, and had learned to appreciate his manly virtues where, in fidelity to a common cause, friendships were welded in the fierce fire of battle. We all loved and honored him, not less for the noble and endearing traits of his character than for his illustrious public services and achievements, and mourned his loss as the saddest bereavement.

We had recognized no indications of the approach of the dread messenger; he came unheralded and unannounced. But the day before his death Senator BURNSIDE was mingling with our people, engaged in his ordinary occupations, in the apparent enjoyment of his usual health, and in the full maturity of his powers. Neither age nor disease had impaired his faculties nor seemingly diminished the vigor of his robust manhood, and a long career of increasing usefulness to the nation and his State seemed open before him. Secure in

the confidence and affections of our people; adorned with all the dignities and honors which they could bestow; just entering, at their repeated call, upon his second term as United States Senator; trusted, honored, and beloved by the nation as few other men ever have been, his future seemed radiant with brilliant promise and honorable possibilities. Yet the insidious destroyer, unsuspected and unrecognized, had crept within the portals of his life; and even preceding the knowledge of his illness came the shocking tidings, BURNSIDE *is dead!*

Although a native of another State, Senator BURNSIDE had long been a citizen of Rhode Island and largely concerned in her affairs in both private and public capacities. Educated at West Point and serving with gallantry in the United States Army, he had, prior to the war of the rebellion, been a distinguished citizen of our State, and had been identified with and in command of our State militia, and at the outbreak of the war in 1861 was naturally selected as the colonel of our "First Rhode Island," that regiment, composed of the best of our patriotic sons, which, rushing to the defense of the Union cause, was among the first to report for duty at the nation's capital.

I refrain from unnecessary reference to that great struggle; for the record and the results, familiar to all, illuminate the pages of our country's history, and live and are perpetuated in our customs and our institutions, in our Constitution and our laws. And I scarcely need to recall how prominent a part in the historic events of that critical period in our national existence was enacted by our late Senator.

The war for the Union, involving, as it did, issues of greater magnitude and importance than had ever before been submitted to the arbitrament of arms—the supremacy of law, the honor of our flag, the very life of the Republic—aroused, as no less cause could, all that earnest patriotism, fidelity, and devotion to country and to duty which were among the stronger traits of BURNSIDE'S character.

His allegiance and his best services during those unhappy years of civil strife were constant, zealous, and unquestioning.

He fully recognized the necessity of that most positive of military laws, that to the superior belongs command, to the subordinate unhesitating obedience, and cheerfully submitted to its requirements.

It was for the Government to command his service, as and where it should be required; it was for him to serve, irrespective of personal preferences; and so we find him, all through his military career and in every field of duty, whether as a subordinate or in high or independent command, ever the same conscientious, faithful, patriot-soldier, forgetful of self and regardless of personal advantage, bending his best ability and energy toward the successful prosecution of the great cause in which he was enlisted.

I do not wish to be understood to say that BURNSIDE was without ambition, for I believe he was unusually imbued with that loftiest of all ambitions,—a determination to perform his duty thoroughly and well; and that he highly valued the appreciative and just approbation of his fellow-men, and the rank and station which are the insignia of its recognition. It might perhaps have saved the country from years of desolating war, with the attendant expenditure of treasure and of blood, had more of our general officers possessed in like degree a similar unselfish ambition.

I will not at this time and upon this, perhaps unfitting, occasion pause to argue or consider the comparative position which should be assigned to BURNSIDE among the great generals of our times. I apprehend that the calm, dispassionate investigation of history will accord to him the high position to which he is entitled in the temple of fame, and will point the moral of his heroic life, his lofty purposes, and of his distinguished and honorable achievements. Yet with the vivid recollections which these thoughts recall of that service which I had the honor to share under his command, I would unfaithfully represent my comrades of the "old Ninth Army Corps" did I fail to testify to the mutual confidence, affection, and esteem which always existed between them and their commanding general. No officer could have been more thoughtful and considerate for those of every rank and station under his command than was General BURNSIDE, and none, I believe, ever inspired his officers and men with such universal devotion and veneration for their commanding general. I know of no other general in the Union Army who so completely held the unquestioning confidence and affection of his men. To them his presence was an inspiration; his smile almost a benediction. Wherever they may have served under him, whether in his regiment, his

brigade, or his illustrious "old Ninth Army Corps," his surviving comrades, while dropping bitter tears over his grave, recall with just pride the recollection and the record of their service with Major-General BURNSIDE.

At the conclusion of the war, modestly wearing the honors he had won, General BURNSIDE resumed his residence in Rhode Island, where, in the following year, he was elected governor of the State, an office which he filled during three successive years, by as many successive elections, to his own honor and the high satisfaction of our people.

In 1874 he was the choice of Rhode Island for United States Senator; and, having completed his first term with credit and distinction, and won the just commendation of our State for the earnestness, care, and discrimination with which he performed the duties of his office and discharged every trust committed to his care, was in 1880 re-elected to his seat in the United States Senate, and had scarcely entered upon his second term at the time of his sudden and seemingly untimely death.

He fell in the ripeness of his fame, adorned with the honors showered upon him by a grateful people, leaving them the legacy of a noble life, an illustrious career, and an honorable example.

His comrades of the war, the people, his State, and the nation mourn his loss, and will vainly seek to fill the place in their counsels and their hearts left vacant by his death.

If he had faults or weaknesses, they were in his excessive generosity, his open-hearted frankness, his amiability of temper, his wonderful unselfishness, his splendid magnanimity.

I think I may justly assert his only faults sprang from the development of his illustrious virtues.

He has gone to his reward, and I feel sure that the Great Arbiter of the universe will deal tenderly with that great spirit in which those who knew him most intimately could find no guile.

Although, in proportion to her small population and limited territory, Rhode Island has furnished many names of great men and distinguished heroes to decorate the pages of our country's history, there is no name upon that illustrious roll which she more affectionately and confidently commits to the appreciative consideration of

posterity than that of her favorite and honored son, AMBROSE EVERETT BURNSIDE.

Mr. Speaker, I move the adoption of the resolutions.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted; and accordingly, at four o'clock and fifteen minutes p. m., the House adjourned.

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